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| APPLICATION NO.   | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.          | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|---|-------------|----------------------|------------------------------|------------------|
| 10/810,273  | 03/26/2004  | Takateru Satoh       | 02157/0201088-US0            | 8531             |
| 7278  | 7590        | 04/30/2007           |                              |                  |
| DARBY & DARBY P.C.<br>P. O. BOX 5257<br>NEW YORK, NY 10150-5257 |             |                      | EXAMINER<br>KAYRISH, MATTHEW |                  |
|   |             |                      | ART UNIT                     | PAPER NUMBER     |
|   |             |                      | 2627                         |                  |
|   |             |                      | MAIL DATE                    | DELIVERY MODE    |
|   |             |                      | 04/30/2007                   | PAPER            |

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/810,273

Applicant(s)

SATO ET AL.

Examiner

Matthew G. Kayrish

Art Unit

2627

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 April 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-5 and 9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-5 and 9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 26 March 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                                | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                       | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                       |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 1 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection. Claims 1, 3 and 5 have been amended. Claim 9 has been added. Claims 2 and 6-8 have been canceled. Claims 1, 3-5 and 9 remain pending.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) The invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 3-5 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Shiga et al. (US Patent Number 6761327).

Regarding claim 1, Shiga discloses:

A tape cartridge comprising:

A reel hub unit (figure 1, item 23), for winding a tape-shaped recording medium (figure 1, item 20) on its periphery (column 9, lines 22-25), rotatably accommodated in said tape cartridge (column 9, lines 22-25); and

A leader member (figure 1, item 21) for holding and fixing a leading edge of the tape-shaped recording medium (column 9, lines 1-62);

Wherein said leader member includes a pin member (figure 5a, item 21a) having a pair of collar portions (figure 5a, item 21d) between which the tape-shaped recording medium is positioned (column 10, lines 26-32), and a clamp member (figure 5a, item 62) fitted in between said collar portions from through an opening (figure 5a, opening represented by slit [S]) so formed in a longitudinal direction of a cylindrical body as to extend to end surfaces on both sides of said cylindrical body (See figure 5a), and clamping the tape-shaped recording medium between said pin member and said clamp member itself (column 10, lines 45-50); and

Chamfered portions (figure 36, item 64) are provided at edge portions of the opening of said clamp member (figure 36, (column 20, lines 37-42)), said chamfered portions each comprising a planar surface enclosed by three edges (figure 36 below), a first of said three edges being formed between the planar surface of the chamfered portion and an end surface of said cylindrical body facing one of said collar portions (figure 36, edge between surface 62c and 64), the second of said three edges being formed between the planar surface of the chamfered portion and a side surface of said cylindrical body extending in the longitudinal direction of said opening (figure 36, edge between surface S and 64), and the third of said three edges being formed between the planar surface of the chamfered portion and an outer peripheral surface of said cylindrical body (figure 36, edge between surface 62a and 64).

Regarding claim 3, Shiga discloses:

A tape cartridge according to claim 1, wherein said chamfered portions are provided at each of two side surfaces extending in the longitudinal direction of said

opening and facing each other with said opening interposed therebetween (figure 36, items 64 extend outwardly with respect to the opening).

Regarding claims 4, Shiga discloses:

A tape cartridge according to claim 1, wherein a length of said chamfered portion in a direction of the side surface extending in the longitudinal direction, falls within a range of 0.1 through 2 mm (column 20, lines 15-18).

Regarding claims 5, Shiga discloses:

A tape cartridge according to claim 1, wherein a chamfering angle made between a chamfering line of said chamfered portion and by the side surface extending in the longitudinal direction, falls within a range of 20 through 50 degrees (figure 36, inclined guide surfaces are at an angle of about 30° to 45°).

Regarding claim 9, Shiga discloses the features of claim 9 that are in common with the features previously presented in claim 1, as stated in the 102 rejection above, and further discloses:

At least one chamfered portion is provided at an end of said cylindrical body facing one of said collar portions (figure 36, item 64 is at an end surface), said at least one chamfered portion comprising a planar surface that comprises an end surface of said cylindrical body in proximity to one of said collar portions (figure 36), said planar surface being positioned at an acute angle to a longitudinal axis of the cylindrical body and extending over a full cross-sectional area of the cylindrical body (figure 36, item 64 extends over a full cross-sectional area).

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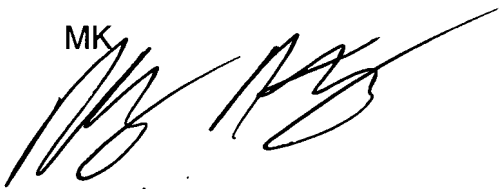
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Matthew G. Kayrish whose telephone number is 571-272-4220. The examiner can normally be reached on 8am - 5pm M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wayne Young can be reached on 571-272-7582. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

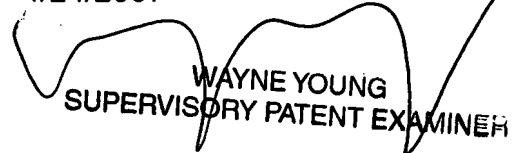
Matthew G. Kayrish

MK



4/24/07

4/24/2007



WAYNE YOUNG  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER